

MONTHLY NOTES
OF THE
Library Association
of the United Kingdom.

Contents :—Official Notices—February Monthly Meeting : Paper by Mr. Ernest C. Thomas, "Professor Dziatzko on the British Museum"—Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports—Notices of Bibliographies—Notices of Books—Notes and Queries.

THE next Monthly Meeting of the Association will be held at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, on Friday, March 3rd, 1882, when the Adjourned Debate on Mr. Ernest C. Thomas's Paper, entitled "Professor Dziatzko on the British Museum," will be taken.

The following corrections and additions should be made in the List of Members printed as a Supplement to the January number :—

Additions.—COOKE (Rev. Canon W.), 6, Clifton Place, Sussex Square, Hyde Park, London, W.; GREVEL (H.), 33, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

Corrections.—Mr. J. MAITLAND ANDERSON should be described as Librarian, University Library, St. Andrew's; Mr. F. S. HERNE should be described as Librarian, Leicester Permanent Library, 19, Granby Street, Leicester; Mr. ROBERTSON, of Aberdeen, should be Mr. A. W. ROBERTSON.

The Edinburgh volume has now been issued to Members from the Chiswick Press. As there appears to be some little misapprehension on the subject on the part of some Members, it may be as well to explain that this volume is issued for the subscription paid for the year ending October 4th, 1880. It was by an accident that the Edinburgh Meeting, as a matter of fact, was held on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of October, and therefore, strictly speaking, not within the financial year. This will probably not occur again.

The Hon. Editorship of MONTHLY NOTES for the present year has been undertaken by Mr. Ernest C. Thomas.

It was by a misunderstanding that Mr. G. F. Hilcken was announced in our last number as having become a Member of the Association.

It will greatly assist the Hon. Secretaries in making arrangements for the issue of the London volume, if as many Members as possible will forward to them a note of the remarks they made in the course of the Annual Meeting at Gray's Inn, in September last. It is hoped also that those papers which are not yet in the Secretaries' hands may be returned to them as early as is convenient.

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

THE Fifth Monthly Meeting of the Fifth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, February 3rd, at 8 p.m., Mr. CORNELIUS WALFORD, V.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. H. S. ASHBEE, who was proposed for election at the last Monthly Meeting, was duly elected.

Mr. Octavius M. Johnson, Assistant in the Cambridge University Library, was reported by the Rev. S. S. Lewis, one of the local secretaries for Cambridge, as having joined the Association.

A copy of the Catalogue of the Library of the Museum of Practical Geology and Geological Survey was reported as having been presented to the Association through Mr. T. W. Newton, one of its compilers.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. Ernest C. Thomas to read his Paper, entitled

PROFESSOR DZIATZKO ON THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

There has appeared in a recent number of the *Preussische Jahrbücher*, a long article on the Library and Reading-room of the British Museum, by Professor Karl Dziatzko, Librarian of the University Library at Breslau. Apart from his position as a classical scholar, there can be no question of Professor Dziatzko's qualifications to speak as a critic. The library of which he is in charge at Breslau is entitled to be reckoned high in the second rank of the libraries which are inferior only to the great national collections, such as those of Paris and of London. The Breslau library has 350,000 printed books, 250,000 pamphlets and dissertations, and 4,000 MSS. Moreover, Professor Dziatzko has evidently taken great pains to acquaint himself thoroughly with the best sources of information as to the history and management of the collections at the Museum, and he has had the advantage of considerable personal familiarity with the working of the arrangements in the library. We shall certainly not listen here the less readily to his views and suggestions, because he is one of our members, having joined us at our Oxford Meeting in 1878.

Professor Dziatzko was good enough to send me an "Abdruck" of his paper, and it appeared to me that it might not be an uninteresting contribution to our evening's bill of fare, if I were to lay before you the critical portions of Professor Dziatzko's article, omitting the expository and descriptive matters as being already more or less familiar to us.

The writer begins by dealing very briefly with the arrangement of the books upon the shelves. He observes that this arrangement is not strictly systematic, although there is a certain rough classification. He declines to go into the old controversy, whether, in arranging the books themselves, the preference is to be given to a strictly systematic distribution, or a distribution based upon merely practical considerations, such as those of space and so on. In the case of such enormous libraries as that of the Museum, where space must be economised as much as possible, and where, moreover, there is no free access to the shelves, but as many books as he chooses to ask for are brought to the reader without any hesitation, the system actually adopted at the Museum may prove sufficient. But, he observes, the one necessary—even indispensable compensation for the defects of such a system is a really good and complete Subject Catalogue, and this is entirely wanting at the Museum. With regard to the arrangement of the Alphabetical Catalogue, as regards convenience and utility, the gigantic labour of arranging and placing at the disposition of the public a mass of about a million titles, in a handy and legible shape, and on a fixed and consistently worked-out principle, deserves ungrudging recognition and admiration. To anyone who is merely in search of the works of a particular author, the catalogue will supply without difficulty adequate information. But it cannot be denied that the catalogue ceases to be a reliable guide as soon as we come to the titles of anonymous books or to collective works. Then it exhibits the defects which are peculiar to English bibliography generally, namely, the intrusion of "subject" standpoints into the alphabetical arrangement, the unnecessary and aimless sacrifice of the principle of form to that of matter.

From weaknesses of this kind, modern French and German catalogues are generally free. As an illustration, Professor Dziatzko mentions that at the Museum, periodicals of all kinds—*e.g.*, Annals, Year-books, Journals, Monthlies, Zeitschriften, Reviews—are collected under the catchword "Periodical Publications," and without any cross reference under the distinguishing word of the particular title. The finding of the title sought is made still more difficult by the publications of Learned Societies and Ephemerides being under separate heads.

Having disposed of the remarks upon these two points, I will now call your attention to Professor Dziatzko's general criticism of the general administration of the Museum, and here I shall follow his words more closely:

If we now sum up our judgment as to the administration of the printed and manuscript treasures of the British Museum, and

indicate, together with its chief merits, a few points in which the present arrangements admit, if they do not require, some further development, we must, above all, emphasize with the utmost praise the constant effort to make these treasures fully and conveniently available. This leading feature of all the arrangements at the British Museum, which is kept continually alive and active by the force of public opinion, explains the past success of the institution, as it will also lead to still further advances. The hours of access are as extended as is conceivable, and are, in fact, limited only by the necessity of keeping the rooms clean and by the length of daylight. As soon as a more extended application of the electric light was shown to be possible, its use was introduced into the Reading-room. The same spirit of genuine liberality is displayed in bringing to the reader any book or any MS. that the Museum possesses, without any exception and without any further formality, as well as without any further delay than is imposed by the need of supplying the wants of so many readers at the same time. (Professor Dziatzko calls attention, in a note, to the inconvenience of the practice of the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, where books and MSS. can only be consulted in separate apartments.)

Next to the truly liberal conception of the nature and object of public libraries, and the consequent care for the interests of the public, Professor Dziatzko's admiration was excited by the great security and order with which the administration and use of the great number of books and MSS. are carried on. In the eight weeks during which Professor Dziatzko worked at the Museum, not a single one of all the many books and MSS. he asked for was reported as not to be found, or as at the binder's. Often the books he wanted were in use, but that this was not a mere empty formula to cover a careless search was always shown by the fact that soon the book was brought to him. Defects, again, of any kind, are the greatest possible rarities at the Museum. The administration is greatly aided in maintaining this good order by a strict adherence to the rule that no book or MS. is ever allowed to be taken out of the rooms of the Museum. This rule may, he observes, appear to Germans, who are accustomed to regard libraries as places to take books from, and in Germany, where libraries lend each other their treasures, from one town to another, and from one country to another, as illiberal and absurd. But, for the circumstances of London, the rule is, in Professor Dziatzko's opinion, entirely suitable. And it is a great thing for the reader at the Museum to know that he may straightway have the use of any book indicated in the catalogue, unless, of course, it is in the hands of some other reader in the building.

The third great merit of the administration of the British Museum is the thoroughly practical and consistent character of its arrangements as a whole. Upon a few thoroughly right leading principles is based the whole complicated framework of the administration, which easily admits of being supplemented or improved in more or less important points, but which is admirably put together, and

which in practice has been found most successful. This brings us to the points in which Prof. Dziatzko thinks that there may be room for improvement.

He regards as an essential want the entire absence of a Subject Catalogue of the printed books. To supply this want is one of the most pressing duties of the administration, and scholars will continually have to call attention to this keenly-felt *desiderium*. A very inadequate substitute is supplied by the printed bibliographical helps which have recently been placed in considerable numbers in the Reading-room, and of which a special catalogue has been prepared by Mr. G. W. Porter. It is obvious, however, that these helps do not suffice to give the reader ready and complete information as to the books upon his special subject that exist in literature generally, or in the British Museum in particular. Would it not be possible, asks Professor Dziatzko, to break up one of the three existing copies of the alphabetical catalogue (he might have said to take the spare slips, of which one set is kept in boxes roughly classified), and arrange the slips according to subject? If portions of the Subject Catalogue, dealing with departments in which the Museum is specially rich, were printed and published, the volumes so produced would find willing purchasers, and the Museum could itself use these printed catalogues for cutting up, so as gradually to substitute print for the old written title-slips in the Alphabetical Catalogue. The plan of printing the Museum catalogue, which has again been ventilated for some years by the Museum authorities, and the carrying out of which is actually in preparation, Prof. Dziatzko regards as a mistake, and entirely agrees on this point with Dr. Edward Reyer, of the University of Vienna, who some time ago began an agitation upon this subject.* The sacrifice of labour and money which so colossal an undertaking would demand would not be compensated by advantages which would be limited to the rooms of the British Museum. Probably, too, the execution of the scheme will halt at the beginning, as was the case with the printed folio catalogue of forty years ago, of which only the first volume appeared, containing the letter A. The scheme, indeed, this time appears to be somewhat differently planned. To begin with, only a catalogue of the books printed in England, or in English, to the year 1640 is to be published. If, as is probably the case, the Museum is especially rich in this department, then such a lexicon would form a substantial contribution to that work which is being actively prepared, viz., a bibliographical lexicon of printed English literature. Perhaps the General Catalogue Committee might later confine itself to issuing a supplemental volume, to include all the English books to the year 1640 which are contained only in other libraries. In Prof. Dziatzko's judgment, however, the most useful task for the Museum to undertake would be to concentrate its powers upon preparing a Subject Catalogue, and upon publishing it wholly or in part.

* See Petzholdt's Anzeiger, 1879, S. 313 f.

In the second place, it must be deplored as a misfortune that the periodical literature is not accessible to readers until the end of a complete year or volume. Not so much in the interests of foreigners, but, as Professor Dziatzko believes, in the interests of native scholars, who cannot all be in a position to take in themselves the special periodicals that interest them, or to become members of some club well provided with journals, it must be noted, as a defect, that in the great and richly provided British Museum it is impossible for the student to keep himself in sympathy and abreast with the latest tendencies and suggestions as they are displayed in special periodicals. If it were only possible to have the separate parts of the periodicals arranged in compartments somewhere near the Reading-room, and to provide them with provisional press-marks, corresponding with a provisional catalogue in the Reading-room, which should be regularly kept up to date, then readers would be able to ask for those parts and numbers as they ask for books.

In the third place, Professor Dziatzko has felt it himself to be an inconvenience, and has heard similar complaints from others, that new books take a very long time before they have gone through all the necessary stages and are put at the disposition of the reader. In 1878, for example, as is shown by a ticket before him, Professor Dziatzko asked for the *Sitzungsberichte der Wiener Akademie, Philos.-hist. Klasse*, 1876 and 1877, and received the written answer that the year 1874 was the "last available." No doubt the accumulation of work accounts for this, besides the time necessary for binding, but it would be very desirable that some economy in the business processes employed, such as Professor Dziatzko elsewhere in his paper suggests the possibility of, should render it possible to lessen the time necessary to render new books available for use.

Finally, in Professor Dziatzko's opinion, the entire Reference Library is in urgent need of a stringent revision, as regards the utility of its 20,000 volumes from our present scientific and literary standpoint. Since the Library was first formed under Sir Antonio Panizzi, little appears to have been done to keep this collection up to the mark by substituting the best and latest literary helps for those which have become obsolete. In September, 1878, for instance, the old edition of the first volume of Pauly's *Realencyklopädie* was still in the Reading-room, while the two volumes of the new edition were lying unbound in the General Library—incorrectly described moreover in the catalogue as "to be continued." Of Forcellini's Latin Lexicon there is no mention in the printed catalogue of the Reference Library in 1871 either of Schneeburger's edition or of any of the later ones (De Vit or Corradini). As to the "leading works" in the department of German Literature, the state of things may be estimated from the fact that neither the Lachmann nor the Lachmann-v. Maltzahn edition of Lessing was in the Reading-room, and of Goethe there was only a Paris reprint of 1835, in five volumes. Of Ranke's histories, surely the "English History in the 16th and 17th

Centuries" ought not to be wanting. With this defect may be coupled another, that in other respects the supply of books in the Museum, at all events in the extensive department of Classical Philology, leaves very much to be desired as regards the acquisitions of the last ten years. Ready as the higher officers in the Reading-room are to supply at once the deficiencies pointed out to them, yet an institution like the British Museum ought not to wait for a casual and tardy suggestion from without, in order to procure such books as Keil's *Grammatici Latini* or Reiferscheid's edition of Suetonius, &c., &c.; and Professor Dziatzko adds: We have perhaps, in this respect, the results of the principle which was deliberately followed by the late Principal Librarian, Mr. Winter Jones, in accordance with which he favoured devotion to library routine rather than to special studies in the officers of the Printed Book Department—of course with some striking exceptions—and did not ascribe sufficient importance or allow sufficient play to the latter.

It was agreed to adjourn the discussion upon the paper until the next Monthly Meeting.

Mr. Dickinson, of West Bromwich, having written to say that his Library Committee wished to subscribe to the Association on behalf of the library, a discussion arose as to the propriety of passing a new bye-law to cover such cases.—Mr. E. B. Nicholson proposed: "That every institution desiring to join the Association be permitted to nominate one representative for each half-guinea subscribed, but be entitled to only one set of the publications of the Association; and that every such institution may compound in perpetuity for the annual subscription due in respect of each of its representatives by payment of a sum of fifteen guineas."—The further consideration of the question was postponed, and the Meeting adjourned.

LIBRARY NOTES.

AYR.—A large meeting of householders, convened by the Provost at the request of ten ratepayers, was held in the Town Hall on the 2nd of February to consider, the advisability of adopting the Free Libraries Act in the burgh. Rev. Mr. M'Crie moved that the provisions of the Act be adopted. This was seconded by Mr. W. C. Gray, carpet manufacturer, and supported by the Rev. Mr. Copland. Mr. Hugh Bryan, clerk, proposed the previous question, which was seconded by Mr. John Baxter, grocer, and supported by Mr. A. Morgan, bookseller. On a show of hands being taken, the amendment was carried by an overwhelming majority, about three-fourths of the entire audience supporting it. The meeting was an exceedingly stormy one, those who spoke in favour of the Act being received with strong expressions of disapprobation.

CAMBRIDGE.—The plan adopted by the Committee at Doncaster (see MONTHLY NOTES, vol. 3, p. 2); has been carried out on a larger scale at Cambridge. A circular, of which a copy is appended, has

been left at every house in the borough in order to inform every householder what the Public Free Library was, what it contained, and who could avail themselves of it. It was said that although the Library had been in existence a quarter of a century, yet there were many inhabitants who had no knowledge of it, and many others a very erroneous notion as to its provisions. As a consequence many persons have become borrowers for the first time, and many more have used the reading-rooms.

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY.

The Library Committee appointed by the Corporation are desirous that the inhabitants should know—

That every inhabitant of the Municipal Borough, over 14 years of age, has the right to use the Reference Library, Reading-room, and Lending Library, subject to the Rules and Regulations.

That the Reading-room and Reference Library are open daily from 10 A.M. till 9.30 P.M., and the Lending Library from 11 till 2 and from 6 till 9.

That any number of persons in one household have the right to borrow books from the Lending Library, but each person must first obtain a voucher signed by a Ratepayer (whose name appears in the Burgess List) and a Borrower's Ticket. Borrowers can use their tickets for one year and then have them renewed.

Reference Library.—The books in this Department have to be read or consulted in the Reading-room. It contains nearly 7,000 volumes, and comprises Dictionaries of many languages and of many special subjects: Encyclopedias, Directories of London and of about thirty English Counties; Atlases, Railway and other guides, many other works of general reference, together with a special collection of works relating to Cambridge, a Dramatic Library, a Shakespeare Memorial Library, and a selection of over 900 volumes in the Reading-room that can be taken from the shelves (not out of the Reading-room) and used at pleasure.

The Reading-room is largely supplied with the daily and weekly London and Provincial Newspapers, and a varied selection of the best periodical literature of the day. Female readers have a right to the use of the room.

The Lending Library contains nearly 16,000 volumes, including works in all departments of literature, and adapted to all ages and to every class of readers. New books by the best authors are constantly being added to the Library. Books borrowed can be kept 14 days.

The Juvenile Lending Library is for the use of Borrowers over 8 and under 14 years of age. The books, 700 in number, are specially selected for their use, and well adapted to interest and amuse the young members of a family.

BARNWELL BRANCH, EAST ROAD. (Open daily from 11 till 3 and 5 till 10.)—This Branch Library is in connection with the Central Library, and comprises a Reading-room and Lending Library.

The Reading-room is supplied with daily and weekly Newspapers, Magazines, and a small Reference Library.

There are 3,000 volumes in the Lending Library, and a selection of books for the use of juvenile readers. Borrowers have also the privilege of transferring their tickets to the Central Lending Library, or of borrowing such books as are not in the Barnwell Branch.

Catalogues of the Books are published and may be had at the Library. Copies of the Rules and the Borrowers' vouchers may be had free upon application to the Librarian.

By order, J. PINK, Librarian.

Public Free Library, Guildhall, October, 1881.

The Town Council have referred it to a mixed committee to determine as to the best plan for extending the Library premises.

HALIFAX.—Mr. J. R. Welch, late Sub-Librarian of the South Shields Public Library, has been appointed Librarian of the Public Library, Halifax.

JAPAN.—The free library at Tokio, the capital of Japan, founded in 1873, contained, seven years later, 63,840 volumes of Chinese and Japanese works, 5,162 English books, 6,547 Dutch, and about 2,000 volumes in other European languages. There is a large reading-room, admission is wholly free, and books are sometimes permitted to be borrowed. Another library is said to contain 143,000 volumes, including many ancient books and manuscripts; an entrance fee of about $\frac{1}{2}d.$ is charged here. Many of the leading towns throughout the country are also provided with free libraries. Lending libraries of native and Chinese literature have existed in Japan from very early times, but the government now provides students with foreign books.

LONDON: INNER TEMPLE.—The new wing of the Inner Temple Library was opened for use on February 11th. The additional accommodation consists of two large rooms on the same floor as the rest of the library.

OXFORD: BODLEIAN LIBRARY.—Our readers will have received with much pleasure the announcement that the Curators have selected Mr. E. B. Nicholson to succeed the late Mr. Coxe as Bodley's Librarian. We wish him all success and happiness on his return to Oxford. Reversing the precedent of his predecessor, Porson, who left the University for the London Institution, he will leave the London Institution for the University.

ST. ALBAN'S.—On Tuesday, the 24th January, a Free Public Library was opened in this town by Lord Lytton.

SWANSEA: FREE LIBRARY.—The Library Committee have recommended the Council to erect a new building, and it is proposed to petition the Treasury for a site, and for power to borrow £5,000 to defray the cost of building. A motion to discontinue the branch news-rooms was not carried.

TWICKENHAM.—The example of Richmond, in establishing a Free Public Library, has been already followed by the neighbouring parish of Kingston, and an energetic movement is now on foot to provide a similar institution for Twickenham. An enthusiastic meeting of the parishioners was held on Monday, the 23rd January, which had been called together for preliminary discussion as to the desirability of adopting the Free Public Libraries Acts. Several subscriptions, and donations of books were announced, and a resolution in favour of adopting the Acts was carried without dissent. The Local Board has received a requisition to take the votes of the ratepayers upon the question, and has decided to issue voting papers in preference to calling a public meeting.

WOLVERHAMPTON: FREE LIBRARY.—The *Evening Star* (Wolverhampton) of Jan. 26 contains a long account of the work carried on by the Free Library, and an appeal to those who can afford to

aid the Committee by subscriptions to do so. In September of last year a museum was opened in connection with the library, and lectures and classes have also been instituted. There are now 20,000 volumes in circulation.

We are very pleased to be able to quote the following words from the December number of the *Library Journal*: "The *Library Journal* is at last self-supporting, and the publisher feels gratified in being able to announce its continuation." The price remains unchanged (15s. post free to this country), and we hope our members will support the official organ of both Associations.

Dr. S. A. Green, formerly Acting Librarian of the Boston Public Library, has been elected Mayor of that city.

The *Library Journal* states that the Public Document Committee of the A. L. A. have prepared a bill for supplying State and certain other libraries with public documents. The new bill provides (1) that all State libraries shall receive a complete set; (2), that one library in each congressional district, and two libraries in each state shall also be designated by the representatives and senators respectively to receive all documents, except bills and resolves, and (3), that all libraries in the United States, of more than 100,000 vols., shall receive a like supply. A second bill orders the publication of a list of all documents issued from 1871-81, to be continued by a quarterly. It is reported that both bills have been approved of by several senators, and it is confidently hoped that they may be passed. Should this happen, perhaps some enlightened member of Parliament might endeavour to persuade our own Parliament to make some provision for the supply to Free Public Libraries in this country of documents printed at the public expense.

Mr. John E. Hodgson, R.A., has been appointed Librarian of the Royal Academy of Arts, in the place of our late member, Mr. S. A. Hart.

Mr. Richard Kippist, who for more than fifty years was Librarian to the Linnean Society, died on December 14th, aged seventy-one. Mr. Kippist was not a member of our Association.

Dr. Karl Michelic, University Librarian at Vienna, died on December 1st, 1881, aged seventy-six years.

We are glad to learn that the interesting series of Descriptions of Old School and College Libraries, which has been appearing in *Notes and Queries* during the last two years, is to be continued. Mr. Sinker will shortly conclude his account of Trinity College Library, at Cambridge. The reprint of Mr. Thackeray's notes on Eton College Library is noticed on another page. Besides these two, the following Libraries have also been described in the same periodical, viz.: St. Paul's School (6th S. I. 1880, p. 449); Christ's Hospital (6th S. II. 1880, p. 101); Brasenose College, Oxford (6th S. II. 1880, p. 321); Codrington Library, at All

Souls' College, Oxford (6th S. II. 1880, p. 421); Balliol College, Oxford (6th S. III. 1881, p. 61); Queen's College, Oxford (6th S. IV. 1881, p. 441, &c.). These descriptions render a real service alike to librarians and to bibliographers.

There is a good description of the Beckford Library, now the property of the Duke of Hamilton, in *Clarke's Repertorium Bibliographicum*, 1819, p. 203. The approaching sale of this magnificent collection of books and manuscripts, coming so close upon the heels of the Sunderland sale, is causing great delight among purchasers and great dismay among dealers. Messrs. Sotheby will dispose of the Beckford Library in June, and the Hamilton Library will be sold later on. Mr. H. G. Bohn, in an interesting letter to the *Times* of Thursday, January 19, estimates the value of the Beckford Library at £50,000.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Dundee. Report of the Free Library Committee to the Town Council of Dundee. November, 1881. 8vo, pp. 22.

The gross return of books issued exceeds that of any previous year, and amounts to nearly a quarter of a million of volumes. In the Lending Department the issues were 182,931 volumes, or a daily average of 614. The Reference Library was open 310 days, during which 63,427 volumes were issued. This shows a decrease of 8,026 compared with the returns of the previous year, resulting from measures taken by the committee to restrict the admission of young lads, whose talking and misconduct had been found to lessen the number of the adult readers. At the yearly stock-taking 57 volumes were found to be missing during the year, but of these a large portion were lost and have been replaced by borrowers; 970 worn-out volumes, mostly novels, have been withdrawn from circulation, and replaced by 740 new volumes. Valuable gifts of books published within the year have again been received from the University Club and the Subscription Library, to the value in the aggregate of more than £300.

Hull Subscription Library. Report of the Committee to the 106th Annual General Meeting, Wednesday, Dec. 7th, 1881. *Hull*. 8vo, pp. iv., 46.

The number of subscribers during the past year is 513, and the total income £843 7s., as compared with an expenditure of £874 12s. 7d. The expenditure includes interest upon loan shares, and the balance due to the bankers has been reduced from £145 5s. 2d. to £31 5s. 7d. The amount expended upon books, including magazines, during the year has been £214 19s. 2d. Lists of shareholders and of books added to the Library are appended to the report.

Preston. Third Annual Report of the Committee of the Free Public Library and Museum of the Borough of Preston, for the year ending Dec. 31, 1881. 8vo, pp. 15.

The number of volumes in stock is 9,737; of volumes issued during the past year, 88,605. The income for the year was £1,219, and the expenditure £915 6s. 1d. The report includes lists of donations.

South Shields. Report of the Public Library and Museum Committee for the four years ended October 21, 1881. 8vo, pp. 40. Price 2d.

Financial difficulties induced the committee to suspend the annual publication of reports. During the last twelve months, however, large additions have been

made to the Library. During the year the total in use have been 64,903. The income for the last year was £1,103 8s. 1d.; the expenditure, including interest and redemption of debt (£213 9s.), has left a balance of £16 5s. 2d. in the treasurer's hands. A supplementary catalogue of books added to the Circulating and Reference Libraries is appended.

Works Relating to Freemasonry, preserved in the Reference Department of the Wigan Free Public Library. Second edition, enlarged. By Bro. Henry Tennyson Folkard, Librarian. Privately printed. Wigan, 1882. 4to, pp. 32.

An alphabetical list of some 60 works and articles upon the subject, the earliest of which is extracted from the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1737.

NOTICES OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

Books and Reading. By Noah Porter. LL.D. Enlarged and revised edition, with amended bibliography and additions, prepared, under the direction of President Porter, by James M. Hubbard, of the Boston Public Library. New York, 1881. La. 8vo, pp. xii.-434. Price 10s. 6d.

The appendix to the new edition of this well-known work contains a select list of books, brought down to the present time, by Mr. Hubbard.

Catalogue of Works, Papers, Reports, and Maps, on the Geology, Palæontology, Mineralogy, Mining and Metallurgy, &c., of the Australian Continent and Tasmania. Compiled by Robert Etheridge, jun., and Robert Logan Jack. London: Stanford, 1881. 8vo. Price 10s.

An alphabetical list, under authors' names, without any sort of index.

A Reading Diary of Modern Fiction, containing a Representative List of the Novels of the Nineteenth Century, preceded by suggestive remarks on Novels and Novel Reading. By F. Leypoldt. New York, 1881. Sm. 8vo, pp. 160. Price 1s.

The publisher of the *Library Journal* is well acquainted with the requirements of public libraries, and this little book will be found very useful. It contains a list of over one thousand novels (among which American fiction occupies a prominent place), presented in the form of a diary, with blank pages ruled for additions and memoranda.

Bibliografia Ariotesca; da Jac. Ferrazzi. Bassano, 1881. Sm. 8vo, pp. xii.-275. Price 4s. 6d.

The most complete bibliography of the Italian poet which has yet appeared.

American Newspaper Annual, containing a Catalogue of American Newspapers. By N. W. Ayer and Son. Philadelphia, 1882. 4to, pp. 736. Price 15s.

A good index to the very extensive literature of American newspapers.

Inventaire sommaire des MSS. des Bibliothèques de France dont les Catalogues n'ont pas été imprimés. Par U. Robert. Paris, 1881. Fasc. 1-2, 8vo, pp. 1-228.

The second part of this important work has just been issued. It finishes the list of the MSS. of the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal at Paris, and includes an account of a great number of those belonging to provincial libraries.

Verzeichniss der Bücher, Landkarten; &c., welche vom Juli bis zum December, 1881, neu erschienen oder neu aufgelegt worden sind. Herausgegeben und verlegt von der J. C. Hinrichs'schen Buchhandlung in Leipzig. *Leipzig*, 1881. Sm. 8vo, pp. cix.-498. Price 4s.

It is greatly to be regretted that we do not possess for new English books some equivalent to this excellent half-yearly bibliography of German current literature.

Hinrich's Repertorium über die nach den halbjährlichen Verzeichnissen 1876-80 erschienenen Bücher, Landkarten, &c., bearbeitet von Eduard Baldamus, mit einem Sach-Register. *Leipzig*: J. C. Hinrichs'sche Buchhandlung, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. xvii.-854. Price £1.

This is a five-yearly index to the above work. The titles are very brief and in classified order.

Catalogue of Books, Periodicals, Prints, and Diagrams, suitable for District Lending Libraries, &c., as well as for Soldiers, Sailors, Schools, &c., prepared and issued by the Pure Literature Society, 11, Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C. *London*, December, 1881. 4to. 2d.

A list of books recommended, at prices ranging from 4d. to 10s., with an indication of the class of reader to whom each work may be specially suitable. Perhaps the list is somewhat wanting in literature of a robust tendency, but it is not without merit as a guide to works for the juvenile department of a free library. Books selected from this list (to the value of £5 to £10) for working men's institutions and similar bodies, are sold at half-price by the Society, upon the recommendation of a subscriber.

Bibliographie géologique et paléontologique de l'Italie; par les soins du Comité d'organisation du 2^{me} Congrès géologique internationale à Bologne. *Bologne*: N. Zanichelli, 1881. 8vo, pp. viii.-630. Price 10s.

This was to have been compiled by co-operation, but the undertaking broke down before it had been half accomplished, and Signor Alessandro Portis was requested by the president of the congress to complete the work, which he has done in a very thorough manner. There are over 6,550 titles, arranged in geographical order, with chronological and alphabetical indexes.

Bibliographie Céramique, Nomenclature analytique de toutes les Publications faites en Europe et en Orient sur les Arts et l'Industrie céramiques depuis le xvi^e siècle, jusqu'à nos jours; par [Jules Fleury, dit] Champfleury. *Paris*: A. Quantin, 1881. 8vo, pp. xv.-352. Price 16s.

Classified under countries, with subdivisions of subjects; index of authors. Each of the foreign titles has a French translation, and there are a few notes.

Essai d'une Bibliographie de l'Histoire spéciale de la Peinture et de la Gravure en Hollande et en Belgique [1500-1875]; par J. F. van Someren. *Amsterdam*: F. Muller et Cie, 1882. 8vo, pp. ix.-207-ix., and four more not numbered.

A careful compilation. The titles (given in full) are arranged in classified order, with an index. The notes are all to the purpose, a matter not always observed in bibliographical works. The author is an assistant Librarian of the University Library of Amsterdam.

Scanderbeg (Georges Castriota); Essai de bibliographie raisonnée: Ouvrages sur Scanderbeg écrits en Langues Française, Anglaise, Allemande, Latine, Italienne, Espagnole, Portugaise, Suédoise et Grecque, et publiés depuis l'invention de l'imprimerie jusqu'à nos jours; par Georges T. Pétrovitch. (Petite Collection Bibliographique.) Paris: E. Leroux, 1881. Sm. 8vo, pp. xxix.-187. Price 15s.

A dainty little volume, which contains a great deal of very careful work. The titles are elaborately described and arranged in chronological order, with notes here and there. Tragedies, poems, and novels are mentioned, but Lord Beaconsfield's "Iskander" is not among them.

L'œuvre gravé des Van de Passe; décrit par D. Franken. Amsterdam: F. Muller et Cie, 1881. 8vo, pp. xl.-319.

The catalogue describes the engraved works of the father Crispin, his three sons and a daughter. Nearly all the family spent some time in this country, and executed portraits of English celebrities.

L'Art pendant la Guerre de 1870-71. Marius Vachon, Strasbourg, les musées, les bibliothèques et la cathédrale; inventaire des œuvres d'art détruites. Paris: A. Quantin, 1882. 8vo, pp. lii.-161.

The town library of Strasbourg and that of the Protestant seminary, both destroyed during the siege, were the richest in France after the Bibliothèque Nationale, and are stated to have contained 400,000 volumes. Nearly 5,000 of their incunabula (now perished) are here described. M. Vachon has already published notices of the libraries of the Louvre, Conseil d'Etat, and Cour des Comptes, burnt during the Commune, as well as of the Chateau de St. Cloud, which was also destroyed during the war; and another volume will be devoted to the former library of the Hôtel de Ville, the library of the Tuileries, &c.

Eton College Library. Reprinted from *Notes and Queries*. By the Rev. Francis St. John Thackeray. Eton: Williams and Sons, 1881. Sm. 4to, pp. vi.-100. Price 5s.

The library now contains upwards of 23,000 printed volumes, with 100 European and 222 Oriental MSS. The collection is largely composed of standard works of the 17th and 18th centuries, modern scholarship being poorly represented. The chief interest lies in the MSS., the Bibles and theology, the Caxtons, the incunabula, rare classical editions, and early English literature. Mr. Thackeray's description is drawn up with praiseworthy care and accuracy.

Our honorary member, Mr. W. F. Poole, of Chicago, is getting on rapidly with his new *Index to Periodical Literature*. It is now proposed to insert a quantity of additional matter, and about fifty of the chief reviews and magazines will be indexed down to January, 1882. The manuscript will be ready for press by the 1st of April.

The *Catalogue des Ouvrages Périodiques que reçoivent les principales bibliothèques de Belgique*, published by the Bureau de Traduction at the Ministère de l'Intérieur, has just been issued at Brussels (1 fr.). The Bureau will be shortly transferred to the Bibliothèque Royale, and the 900 serials which both institutions receive will be brought together in one apartment. The numerous deficiencies of the collection are also to be made good.

The January number of the Bulletin of the Library Company of Philadelphia contains a list, prepared by Mr. C. R. Hildeburn, of the issues of the press in Pennsylvania from 1685 to 1734.

In a recent catalogue of Signor L. Arrigoni occurs a copy of the *Opuscules philosophiques et littéraires* [publiés par MM. Suard et Bourlet de Vauxcelles], Paris, 1796, 8vo (200 fr.), bound in human skin, gilt edges, by the famous Derome; a piece of work for which he was paid 20 fr. in 1796, according to a contemporary note on the fly-leaf.

The *Prix Brunet* for 1882 is to be awarded for the best essay on the bibliography of Aristotle.

An extensive bibliography of the subject is contained in Dr. Karl Schmidt's *Jus Primæ Noctis: eine geschichtliche Untersuchung* (Freiburg: Herder, 1881).

The *Diccionario general de Bibliografia Española* is now complete in seven volumes, including index.

Our honorary member, the Comte de Marsy, of the Bibliothèque de Compiègne, is preparing a bibliography of works on hunting, hawking, coursing, and "la chasse" generally, and would be glad to have a note of any special collections on these subjects which exist, either in public or private libraries, in Great Britain.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Reminiscences of Solomon Alex. Hart. R.A.; edited by Alexander Brodie. London, printed for private circulation, 1882. Sm. 8vo, pp. 144, photograph portrait.

These interesting recollections include a few respecting former librarians of the Academy. The writer speaks of his own labours in the same institution in these words:—"I entered upon my duties, determined to be not a duster of books, but to enlarge the usefulness of the Library. . . . I wished to make a selection worthy of a college of arts. . . . In this, I may say, I have been successful, and my catalogue is now considered as an authority, both at home and abroad." It should have been noted that the catalogue in question was compiled and edited by our member, Mr. H. R. Tedder.

Of English Literature in the Reign of Victoria, with a Glance at the Past. By Henry Morley. Tauchnitz edition, Vol. 2,000. Leipzig: B. Tauchnitz, 1881. Sm. 8vo, pp. xl.-xii.-416.

A fairly good handbook to recent English literature, and may be useful to librarians in choosing books. On p. 248 Prof. Morley tells the story of the stoppage of the *Reader* in 1867, mainly through an amazing blunder of Mr. F. J. Furnivall, who reviewed Johnson's preface to his English dictionary as a *new book*. Professor Morley himself has, however, shown an equal want of bibliographical knowledge on p. 256, where the "Reliques of Father Prout" are ascribed to Dr. Maginn instead of to Mahony! This is not a mere slip of the pen, as the error is continued over two pages.

The Biography and Typography of William Caxton, England's First Printer. By William Blades. Second edition. London: Trübner, 1882. 8vo, pp. xii.-387.

The value and interest of Mr. Blades' work upon Caxton are too well-known to need any commendation here. The present book is founded to a great extent upon his larger work, but is brought up to the present time, and includes all discoveries since made. The book is beautifully printed and illustrated, and is a marvel of cheapness. It should be in every library.

A Son of Belial. Autobiographical Sketches. By Nitram Tradleg.
London: Trübner, 1882. 8vo, pp. viii.-250.

Apart from its intrinsic interest as a clever and truthful sketch of his intellectual development by a clever man, this book is of special interest to the librarian as a pseudonymous work. The pseudonym, indeed, is transparent enough, if so simple a device can be fairly called a pseudonym, and the name of "Bosphorus," and of the various well-known characters described under other pseudonyms, require no very clever Oedipus to deal with them. Some of the Manchester people, in fact, may find reason to complain that they are not more effectually masked. The book is well worth reading.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

INJURY TO BOOKS.—Is there any evidence to show whether colocyath, or corrosive sublimate, mixed with binders' paste for the purpose of destroying book pests, has an injurious effect upon the binding or paper?—C. W.

LOST BOOKS.—Under this title a communication appears in the February number of the *Bibliographer* from the pen of Mr. G. L. Gomme, who promises to put his "many notes together on this curious and important question." He quotes from the *Journal of Arch. Assoc.* xxiii., p. 136, an example of what he means: "Ingulphus, Bishop of Lisieux, who lived in the eleventh century, says that Edward the Confessor caused the fables of Æsop to be translated. Ingulphus informs us that Alfred had translated them from the Greek into Saxon in the ninth century." Mr. Gomme, I am given to understand, is a recognized authority upon early English history, so that his confirmation of the truly remarkable story of a "Greek Æsop" translated by King Alfred, is a very weighty one. This is all the more significant from the notorious fact that Sir Francis Palgrave, Wright, Hallam, and Freeman have held the opinion that the work attributed to Ingulphus was an undoubted forgery. Mr. Freeman goes so far as to say (*History*, iv., 600): "I need hardly, at this time of day, go about to disprove the genuineness of the so-called Ingulf." Since the editor of the *Bibliographer* remarks that Mr. Gomme's investigation into the history of lost books is a very good suggestion, he may be supposed to agree in this interesting discovery of the authenticity of Ingulphus; an achievement which is exceedingly creditable to English bibliography. As the reference to the *Journal of Arch. Association* is not correct, I have been unable to verify the above quotation, so that I am still in the dark as to the original exponent of the new theory of Ingulphus. — A PERPLEXED LIBRARIAN.

London: TRÜBNER & CO., Ludgate Hill.

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post free, 3s. 6d.